

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A specimen analysis disk comprising a channel ~~provided~~ therein as extending from an injection port toward an outer periphery thereof ~~and~~, the analysis disk rotatable about an axis thereof ~~by external rotation means~~ to cause a liquid specimen injected into the channel from the injection port to flow through an analysis area ~~provided~~ located midway in the channel with respect to a radially outer end portion of the channel, ~~wherein~~ and a water absorbing member is ~~provided~~ located in the outer end portion of the channel.

2. (Original) A specimen analysis disk as set forth in claim 1, wherein a reagent reactive with a constituent of the liquid specimen to be analyzed is provided in the analysis area.

3. (Original) A specimen analysis disk as set forth in claim 1, wherein the water absorbing member is composed of a porous material.

4. (Previously Amended) A specimen analysis disk as set forth in claim 1, wherein the water absorbing member contains a coagulating agent for coagulating the liquid specimen.

5. (Original) A specimen analysis disk as set forth in claim 4, wherein the coagulating agent is a highly water absorbable polymer.

6. (Original) A specimen analysis disk as set forth in claim 4, wherein the coagulating agent is a blood coagulating agent.

7. (Currently Amended) A specimen analysis disk as set forth in claim 1, wherein the outer end portion of the channel provided with the water absorbing member has a greater width than a portion of the channel radially inward of the outer end ~~portion~~portion.

8. (Original) A specimen analysis disk as set forth in claim 1, wherein a portion of the channel radially inward of the outer end portion provided with the water absorbing member is bottlenecked.

9. (Original) A specimen analysis disk as set forth in claim 1, wherein the channel includes a plurality of channels which are connected to each other at the outer end portions thereof each provided with the water absorbing member.

10. (Currently Amended) A specimen analysis disk as set forth in claim 1, wherein a portion of the channel which is radially inward of the outer end portion provided with the water absorbing member is coated with a hydrophobic material.

11. (Original) A specimen analysis disk as set forth in claim 1, wherein a valve device is provided between the analysis area and the outer end portion provided with the water absorbing member.

12. (Original) A specimen analysis disk as set forth in claim 11, wherein the valve device is opened and closed by a centrifugal force.

13. (Currently Amended) A specimen analysis device, which employs a specimen analysis disk comprising a channel ~~provided~~ therein ~~as~~ extending from an injection port toward an outer periphery thereof, an analysis area ~~provided~~located midway in the channel and a water absorbing member ~~provided~~located in a radially outer end portion thereof, the device comprising rotation means which rotates the specimen analysis disk about an axis of the disk with a liquid specimen injected in the channel from the injection port, and optical detection means which scans the analysis area to optically detect a constituent of the liquid specimen guided through the channel toward the outer periphery of the disk by the rotation.

14. (New) The specimen analysis disk according to claim 1, wherein the specimen analysis disk comprises a plurality of the channels.

15. (New) The specimen analysis disk according to claim 14, wherein the plurality of the channels each originates from around the axis of rotation and terminates towards a radially outward portion of the specimen analysis disk.

16. (New) The specimen analysis disk according to claim 15, wherein the plurality of channels are placed equidistantly from each other.

17. (New) The specimen analysis disk according to claim 1, wherein the outer end portion of the channel is adjacent to a terminal end of the channel, and the terminal end of the channel is positioned opposite to the injection port.

18. (New) The specimen analysis disk according to claim 1, wherein the flow of the liquid specimen terminates at the water absorbing member.

19. (New) The specimen analysis disk according to claim 1, wherein the channel extends from the injection port to the water absorbing member.